

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KIGALI 00768 201052Z POSS DUPE
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-07
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 /138 W
-----059430 211432Z /14

R 191235Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6139
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMCONSUL BUKAVU
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, ECIN
SUBJECT: METHANE GAS LAKE KIVU

REF USDAO KINSHASA DTG 111002Z MAY 78

1. REF MESSAGE, CONCERNING PREDICTED VOLCANIC ERUPTION IN
KIVU REGION EASTERN ZAIRE, MENTIONS (PARA B) A SOVIET
SURVEY TEAM "STUDYING LAKE KIVU TO DETERMINE THE ECONOMIC
FEASIBILITY OF EXTRACTING METHANE GAS FROM THE LAKE."

2. KIVU'S METHANE GAS HAS LONG BEEN THE REGION'S "EL
DORADO," AND USG HAS REPEATEDLY BEEN PRESSED BY RWANDANS
TO UNDERTAKE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT TO EXPLOIT GAS FOR ENERGY OR
FERTILIZER PURPOSES. IN FACT, AID/W HAS SCHEDULED TECHNICAL
SURVEY TEAM FOR RWANDA LATER THIS YEAR TO EXAMINE STUDIES
ALREADY MADE OF METHANE DEPOSITS AND IDENTIFY POSSIBLE STEPS WE
MIGHT TAKE TO FACILITATE EXPLOITATION.

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3. WE ARE AWARE OF AGREEMENT AMONG RWANDA, BURUNDI, AND
ZAIRE TO EXPLOIT METHANE RESOURCES IN COMMON, WITHIN
FRAMEWORK OF ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF GREAT LAKES STATES.
TO DATE NO MENTION HAS BEEN MADE HERE OF SOVIET WILLINGNESS
TO PURSUE METHANE (INDEED SOVIET AID ACTIVITIES HERE
ARE PRACTICALLY NIL). WE WONDER IF ANOTHER CEPGL MEMBER,
OR PERHAPS CEPGL SECRETARIAT, HAS ENLISTED SOVIET AID.

WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFO. WE WILL OF COURSE INQUIRE
HERE AS WELL.
CRIGLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: ENRG, ECIN, RW, CG, BY, US, UR
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